

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Restriction Requirement mailed on March 26, 2004 listed claims 1-53 as pending. Applicant wishes to point out that a preliminary amendment was filed with the above referenced application that canceled claims 31-42 and claims 48-50.

The Restriction Requirement of March 26, 2004 does not contain an identification of claim groupings or species. As such, in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on March 26, 2004, applicant hereby elects apparatus claims 21-30 and method claims 43-47 for examination purposes. Applicant respectfully submits that the search and examination of apparatus claims 21-30 and method claims 43-47 falls within a same class and that the examination of such claims can be made without a serious burden on the examiner, even though they may include independent or distinct inventions. MPEP 803. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that this election be entered and, if so, that claims 1-20 and 51-53 be canceled without prejudice as indicated in the listing of the claims above.

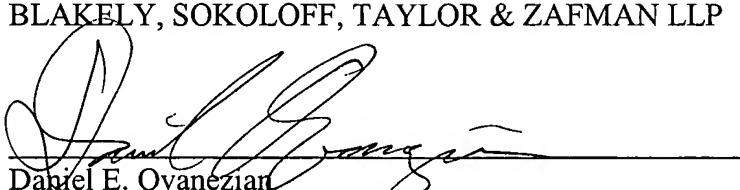
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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